



Feinstein, Van De Kamp Battle It Out

by Michael Varacalli
OF MGW STAFF

Dianne Feinstein became Mayor of San Francisco when former Supervisor Dan White assassinated Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone. She then went on to be reelected in her own right, survive a recall election in 1982, and another reelection in 1984.

Mayor Feinstein was known through most of her career as a very competent administrator, though that reputation was tarnished when she left office with a \$180 million budget deficit looming. She denies leaving a deficit at all, and her campaign manager, Bill Carrick, blames current SF Mayor Art Agnos for leaking false information about his predecessor. (Agnos supports Feinstein's opponent for the Democratic nomination, John Van de Kamp.)

Reaction to Feinstein's candidacy has been mixed in the gay and lesbian community. Some have never forgiven her for vetoing a partner benefits bill in 1982. Still, she has a strong core of politically moderate supporters. The left-wing Harvey Milk club recently put out a newsletter blasting her record as mayor and praising the record of Attorney General Van de Kamp.

Organized labor is also divided on her candidacy. While mayor she attacked collective bargaining for city employees and vetoed legislation which would have set up a pay equity system for female employees. Unions then put both issues on the ballot and won through the voting process what they had lost on the mayor's desk.



Diane Feinstein
Photo courtesy of
Owen Brewster/Sacramento Bee

The women's community in California is also divided on Feinstein. California NOW has not endorsed either candidate. NOW's official position is that either Feinstein or Van de Kamp would be significantly better than Governor Deukmejian, but there is not consensus internally for a pre-primary endorsement.

The former mayor was seen as a long shot by political insiders

until she released a series of TV ads just prior to a major polling. at that point neither Van de Kamp nor Wilson had done much media campaigning. Not surprisingly, Feinstein showed strongly in the polls that followed on the wake of her ad blitz. Some have criticized her use of the 1978 assassinations to gather the voter's attention and sympathy. Also, her subtle comparisons of Van de



John Van de Kamp
Photo courtesy of
Michael Williamson/Sacramento Bee

Kamp and Richard Nixon have been seen as in poor taste.

Feinstein has framed herself as the pro-death penalty, pro-choice candidate. She favors gun control. She has been endorsed by the leadership of both houses of the California legislature, though she will not be endorsed by the state Democratic Party. (Neither Van de Kamp nor Feinstein received the required 60 percent

of delegate votes for an endorsement. She got 33 percent; he got 59 percent).

John Van de Kamp has been the state attorney general since 1982. During that time the liberal Democrat has often been at odds with the official policies of a conservative Republican administration. Van de Kamp does not favor the death penalty, for instance, but has had to represent the state in calling for capital punishment against several defendants.

As Attorney General VDK is out of the spotlight most of the time. Most voters do not know much about him, as recent poll results show. Still, he was the heir apparent to the Democratic nomination for governor until Dianne Feinstein threw her bonnet in the ring. At one time Van de Kamp was rated above his Republican rival Pete Wilson, but has since fallen behind both Wilson and Feinstein.

Though both would deny it, Feinstein and Van de Kamp have designed campaign strategies which smear each other. Feinstein attacks Van de Kamp's opposition to the death penalty; he attacks the budget deficit she left to San Francisco. She then compares his mud slinging to that of Richard Nixon in a 1948 U.S. Senate race. Meanwhile Pete Wilson can sit back counting his campaign war chest funds and let the Democrats destroy each other.

VDK came within two votes of a Democratic Party endorsement. At the statewide convention, VDK scored 1615 votes compared to Feinstein's 900. However, Democratic leaders such as Assembly Speaker Willie Brown and Senate President pro temp David Roberti have endorsed Feinstein.

On gay and lesbian issues VDK's record is good. He opposed right-wing AIDS legislation calling for mandatory testing. He testified in favor of AB 1, the bill which would have made discrimination based upon sexual orientation illegal. He refused to serve as the governor's representative in attempts to block abortion funding. He wrote the anti-gay violence law for California, as well as the law allowing AIDS drug testing.

Still, the community is divided on supporting VDK. Probably the biggest strike against him is his lack of media personality. he is not a riveting public speaker and lacks Feinstein's almost Reaganesque media presence ■

CAP/PAC Forum Features Barbara Zoloth

"Internalized Homophobia" will be the subject of the first educational forum sponsored by the Sacramento CAP/PAC Foundation on Monday, May 15 from 5:30-7:30pm at the Town House, 1517 21st St. The forum featuring Barbara Zoloth is sponsored by the CAP/PAC Foundation, a nonprofit organization which functions as the educational arm of the California Capital Political Action Committee (CAP/PAC). CAP/PAC is a bipartisan, equal gender organization providing financial and political support to candidates supportive of civil rights for gay men and lesbians. The Foundation was established to provide community education on political and social issues of importance to gays and lesbians.

In 1985, Barbara Zoloth attended the International Womens Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya. There were no topics related to lesbians. There were, however, two European women representing a group called the International Lesbian Information Services. Zoloth noticed a large group of people standing around the two women. The group was asking questions about what it was like being a les-

bian. Suddenly, Zoloth found herself in the middle of the group responding to a question. That evening, Zoloth knew she had found her life's work — to educate people about being gay and to confront homophobia.

Zoloth came out at age 33. Her special interest is internalized homophobia: how to acknowledge or identify it, and how to identify "ways it impedes us, keeps us from being whole people, interferes with the work

we try to do in our community, and generally erodes our self-esteem."

Teaching comes naturally to Zoloth, a former economics professor at U.C. Davis and currently a financial analyst and bank vice president. She uses her skills as an educator as a member of the national Campaign to End Homophobia through Education, headquartered in Boston, and as founder of the Speaking of Lesbians speakers bureau, based in San Francisco.

This is the first Educational Forum sponsored by the CAP/PAC Foundation. Future forums will be held quarterly. Admission to the forum is \$7 in advance and includes hot hors d'oeuvres and a no-host bar between 5:30 and 6pm. Reservations may be made by sending \$7 to CAP/PAC Foundation, 1008 10th Street, Suite 255, 95814. Seating will be limited, advance ticket reservations are advised. Admission will be \$8 at the door. For information, contact Anne Bersinger, 920-9587. ■



California Capital Political Action Committee

MGW Newspapers Available in Library

Doing research? Want to look back on events of the 70s and 80s? The back issues of MGW are now available at the Sacramento City Library. From the very first issue to the present, the papers are bound and have been put on microfilm. ■

Commitment: Taking Action

We are at critical crossroads in stemming the dangerous increase of ignorance, prejudice, and discrimination against our way of life. There is a role for each of us during this time, an appropriate action that must be taken that represents our deepest commitment.

Commitment is shaped by our standards. We choose standards at some point in our lives, and they remain with us. They may not be convenient, they may fly in the face of the current cultural norms. They put us in an uncomfortable position when they point to the necessity of making a choice for action. At that point we can choose to act on our commitment, or we try to ignore the calling.

Ursula le Guin conveys this succinctly, "As a man's real power grows and his knowledge widens, ever the path he can follow grows narrower: until at last he chooses nothing, but does only and wholly what he must do."

Sometimes we feel that our choices may result in risk to us, and we want to take a safer course. Unfortunately, the lack of action, doesn't make us any happier, no more comfortable. "Security is mostly a superstition," said Helen Keller, "It does not exist in nature nor do the children of man experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure or nothing."

It's a paradox. You would think that by saving ourselves from a perceived risk, life would be easier. This is the reality of commitment; it exists, like our standards and emotions, and we cannot turn our backs to it without some consequence.

The dilemma is that we feel our best when we are fully expressing who we are authentically. Our commitment is a part of who we are. When we deny or suppress it, we are denying and suppressing our authentic selves.

Gays and lesbians are very experienced in this suppression. It is a cultural inheritance to which we are born. We get used to it. Some of us take action to create a new cultural inheritance, our freedom, and some only contemplate it. Those who take action have stepped beyond their fears, and are fully expressing themselves. Those who only contemplate are living in a resignation to the circumstances. Who is happier? Who is safer? What is the cost of the choice?

One of the problems with not expressing yourself is that you don't learn the options that are available for yourself. Does everybody have to be a demonstrator or marcher to express their commitment? Of course not. But if you take no step, no options are available to you. Remember that in all human triumph there have been placard bearers, but also a very powerful group in the background who gave support and nurturance to them. One cannot exist without the other. There must be a group breaking ground for the message. There must be a group creating reception of the message.

com.mit.ment \ka-'mit-mant\ n

: an agreement or pledge to do something in the future; esp : an engagement to assume a financial obligation at a future date b : something pledged c : the state of being obligated

We offer you a final thought by way of a quote from George Bernard Shaw. We caution you that authentic action requires taking care of all of the aspects of our lives; personal, intimate, as well as public.

"This is the true joy in life: being used for a purpose recognized yourself as a mighty one. Being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy."

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die. For the harder I work, the more I live.

I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch, which I've got to hold up for the moment and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

— Maria Nemeth
— Rita Saenz

Guidelines for letters: Letters to the Editor must be signed with your real name, address and phone (so we can call you with any questions.) Your name, address and phone number may be withheld upon written request. Letters will not be published unless the above guidelines are followed.

ACT-UP: Go Away!

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank MGW's Jim Walker for such a constructive and good editorial. Everything that needed to be said about ACT-UP — he said it. There is only one thing to say: "ACT-UP — stay away from this town and our community because we don't need negative support like yours and please do us all a favor — don't hide your radical actions behind HIV. If anyone should be ashamed, it should be your group."

— Walter F. Mueller

No Battle Won: ACT-UP Just Alienation

Dear Editor:

Regarding the editorial ACT-UP Hurts by Jim Walker, good for you! Walker has good insight into the problems ACT-UP is creating for our community and the intelligence to draw a brilliant analogy between their reasoning and his own experiences as an overweight teenager.

I have a few comments of my own to add. In the same issue of your paper, five people wrote in support of ACT-UP saying things like "We are tired of being peaceful loving people while tens of thousands are dying." To my knowledge, two of those five weren't involved in the AIDS issue until they were arrested at the Hyatt Regency. Are these people then saying they are more tired than the staff at the SAF? Or one of the volunteers there? Or are they more tired than Cleve Jones, who organized the Quilt, the March on Washington, and other political actions, but hasn't joined ACT-UP in their activities? I was told by a friend who was at the demonstration that the two I refer to were most likely caught up in the moment when they stormed Lou Sheldon and the TVC. If that is the case, it is understandable, but then why attempt to justify actions which weren't based on any tangible or lengthy commitment?

Also, what battle did we win in this "war" by disregarding the TVC's right to assembly? ACT-UP, as I understand it, is supposed to bring the media's attention to the plight of those suffering from AIDS. The focus of the press, however, was on the gay community's "hollow victory" as Pete Dexter called it in the *Sacramento Bee*. While alienating the liberal press and dividing our community when unity is most critical, ACT-UP certainly has strange goals. I'm beginning to wonder who's side are they really on?

Salud Garcia

In Support of ACT-UP

Dear Editor:

Regarding your editorial of April 1, ACT-UP Hurts I have a few comments.

For starters I cannot understand your statement "... (ACT-UP's) goals for increased AIDS funding and more expedient approval of new drugs have also alienated potential heterosexual supporters and a large portion of the gay community." Aren't those the goals of every sane, compassionate person? Perhaps you meant to say "tactics" instead of "goals"?

Then you challenge us to choose between being "militant,

angry and outspoken" and "peaceful, diligent, persistent and not quite so far out of the mainstream." A bit out of the mainstream they may be, but ACT-UP has also been peaceful, diligent and persistent as well as militant, angry and outspoken. After all, they haven't thrown punches or bombs, have they? And, as a matter of fact, the very roots of our gay pride movement came from a group of militant, angry, outspoken and violent gays and lesbians who finally fought back at Stonewall. Are you ashamed of them? Would you write them out of our history? If it weren't for those militants MGW might not even exist today.

The only thing in common that our community has is our oppression because of our sexual preference. Otherwise we are as diverse as the heterosexuals. MGW may be the voice of many moderate, mainstream lesbians and gay men but you are being quite presumptuous if you claim to speak for all of us.

As far as I'm concerned, I feel extremely grateful to everyone (including you) who has the gumption to stand up and fight against our oppression in whatever way they choose. These sisters and brothers are laying themselves on the line for all of us. The only two things that I disapprove of are:

- 1) Rolling over and playing dead; and
- 2) Fighting among ourselves, because either way we waste our energy as well as our chances.

Kay Bule

Baptist Bigotry Blasted in the Foothills

Dear Editor:

Pleasant Valley didn't live up to its name when the Pleasant Oak Baptist Church hosted renegade psychologist Paul Cameron for a forum on the causes and effects of homosexuality.

Promising to give social direction for those in the bondage of homosexuality, Cameron actually spoke to a congregation of only 30. Among his points were:

- that sexual contact in early childhood causes homosexuality.
- that an active recruitment among the young against their will swells homosexual ranks.
- that masturbation is more accepted and common among homosexuals.
- and that these and other horrors of modern life are due to the breakdown of the family.

With a wide smile on his face, and a high pitched giggle, Cameron went on to note:

- that the average woman learns to manipulate men through sex.
- that blacks are 2-3 times more promiscuous than whites; have 90 percent of the reported cases of syphilis, and that 70 percent of black children are "illegitimate."
- it could be that the AIDS virus is carried by mosquitoes.

Cameron claims to have come by these incredible statements through his 1983 research for the Family Research Institute, Box 2091, Washington, DC 20013 (703) 690-8536. When challenged on his statistic conclusions (one of the causes of his expulsion from the prestigious American Psychological Association) Cameron characteristically waffled. "Men are weird; what can I say? The numbers speak for themselves."

Indeed.

Perhaps the best note was struck by the Pleasant Oak minister, who announcing that Cameron was promised a "love offering" would be taken up — allowed as how "that's why most of our people stayed away."

Always knew country folks had sense.

— Walter R. Gorski

Make Your Mom Proud

Dear Editor:

Unless you are an ingrate of a child (like me) who habitually forgets to honor the woman who raised you, you are beginning to contemplate Mother's Day with that old sense of vague indecision. What's the dutiful gay son or daughter to send?

To all you tormented souls in the throws of Mother's Day madness, let me suggest the solution to your dilemma — the perfect gift! Why not give a donation (let's say \$50, equivalent to sending a dozen roses long distance) in your mother's name to P-FLAG, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

P-FLAG is a national organization with a chapter in Sacramento and almost every state whose purpose is to help parents cope and accept their child's gayness.

P-FLAG parents are there for us 365 days a year. This May 13, let's show our love and affection for our mothers by supporting this brave and loyal army of parents in the battle for gay and lesbian civil rights. Send your check to: P-FLAG, Box 27605, Washington, DC 20038.

And let your Mom know that you did: it'll make her proud.

— Drew Siegel

Census: Mark ☒ in the Unmarried, Partners Category

Dear Editor:

So Uncle Sam will try and count us this census, albeit through the closet door. Officially, I guess we are "UPpies," since our numbers will be counted in the "same-Sex Unmarried-Partners" category. Unfortunately, the tally will be embarrassingly low. It will reflect a small sampling of how many of us there really are.

Face it, most of us are not in an "Unmarried Partner" situation. We will mark "single" and that will be that.

It potentially will do more damage than good. I can imagine Senator Helms holding up the official stats from the national count and questioning why a small interest group (we may garner a percentage point, if we're lucky) should get so much attention and specific legislation.

As a community we failed in securing a "Gay" box on the 1990 census form. But there is still something we can do about it; if you are living with a roommate, not necessarily a "lover," then stretch the point and mark "U.P." on the form. Sort of a "U.P." theirs.

It won't hurt anyone. It will help all of us. And let's start the wheels moving now for getting our own designation on the next census in the year 2000.

David Reid

Reapportionment — What Difference Does It Make?

by Michael Varacalli
OF MGW STAFF

Once a decade new lines are drawn around voting districts. As the population of the state increases and shifts from one area to another, just how these lines are drawn and by whom becomes crucial. Depending upon what interests control the process, groups such as our community can be given greater or lesser voting power.

For example, if the party in power wants to dilute the voting and political power of Hispanics in Los Angeles, it can do several things. It can break their neighborhoods up into many districts so that they are always the minority voting bloc, or it can lump them all into one district and therefore give them just one representative. This same strategy would hold true for members of any group or any political party.

Democrats controlled the process in 1982 when the last reapportionment was done. It is no coincidence that we have a majority of Democrats in both houses of the State and U.S. governments.

Republicans would like to have that luxury next time around. Gay Republicans especially are concerned that a Democrat controlled reapportionment process would allow Republicans to be elected only out of conservative

districts. That would ensure that the party would continue to be dominated by the right wing.

Two reapportionment initiatives will be on the ballot this year, both sponsored by Republican interests. These initiatives would take the process out of the hands of the Legislature but put authority in the hands of arguably impartial third parties. Democratic leaders have made defeating these initiatives a number one priority. ■

Senator Addresses RCDC

by Jim Walker
OF MGW STAFF

State Senator Leroy Greene spoke to the River City Democratic club at its last meeting about his concerns for the Democratic party and for the state in general.

"The 1990 election will determine who the governor will be during reapportionment," said Greene, who supports Dianne Feinstein in the race for governor. "If we (Democrats) don't capture the governorship, the Republications will have a stronger influence. Because of a demographic change, areas of Sacramento, areas of the state, are becoming more conservative. Voter registration, Democratic voter registration, should be our first priority," said Greene. Reapportionment is the redesign of representative legislative boundaries.

Greene talked at length about taxation and housing, never directly addressing gays.

After about 30 minutes of oration, Greene called for questions from the floor. "Why don't any answer letters?" A man in the audience asked. "In one year I see several thousand bills. The Senate process often prevents me from answering questions because I may not have seen the bill yet. The public may know about it, but I can't comment until I've had a chance to review it. From committee to committee the bill also changes, so you may wonder why I vetoed something that sounded pretty good, but it may not be the same bill we started with," said Greene.

After Greene's presentation, RCDC President Karl Greene resumed the agenda.

The proposed budget for the membership year was presented amid controversy over \$1059 item titled "other."

"What is this other? The miscellaneous category usually is not more than one or two percent of an organizations total budget," said Alan Lofaso, the RCDC's legislative chair.

The budget was adopted after an amendment that explained some of the money would be con-

tinued to next year, \$100 will be used to join the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and still other allocations to join the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and still other allocations to join other organizations would be decided as needed.

The new budget also included \$1450 for LIFE affiliation fees. Fundraising Chair Michael Varacalli has attended LIFE's last southern California conference. The detailed fee is \$350 per diem and a \$110 affiliation charge.

Earlier in the meeting, before the Senator's presentation, it was announced that the RCDC will celebrate its 7th birthday on April 21 at FACES from 4 to 7 pm. Senator John Garamendi and City Councilwoman Kim Mueller as well as several other local politicians were suggested as possible guests.

Some at the meeting also expressed discontent with the actions of ACT-UP at the March demonstration against Lou Sheldon at Sacramento's Hyatt Regency.

"ACT-UP denied the civil rights of others to meet," said one woman. "The Town Council's Rally Committee thought the event turned the whole two days into a negative press showing." The RCDC Executive Board voted to send letters "distancing" the political club from the actions of ACT-UP.

The RCDC also heard from a speakers advocating the Environmental Protection Act of 1990 or "Big Green." The proposition would ban cancer-causing pesticides by 1996, increase protection for farm workers against chemicals, reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 40 percent over the next 20 years, set stringent new standards for clean water and several other provisions. The speaker said that Republican candidate for Governor Pete Wilson does not support the measure, Democrat John Van de Camp does, and Feinstein has yet to announce her position.

A speaker for Feinstein's campaign effort, while not saying much, provided the RCDC with signs and bumper stickers as well as the opportunity to sign up to help elect the candidate.

RCDC's speakers for April are Jeanne Harris, administrative assistant to openly gay San Francisco City Councilman Harry Britt and Rand Martin, Legislative

Assistant to Los Angeles Assemblyman Terry Friedman.

"We are very fortunate to have such great speakers coming-up. I am really looking forward to hearing what they have to say," said Karl Greene.

The RCDC's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17 at 6:30pm at the Lambda Community Center. ■

Hate Crime Bill Passes

by Bonnie Duritsky
OF MGW STAFF

A bill which would require the federal government to compile statistics on hate crimes was

recently sent to the White House. The legislation, which has been overwhelmingly approved by both the House and Senate, would give local, state and federal lawmakers indication of the number of hate related crimes so that improvements in combating hate violence could be made accordingly. Also, guidelines would be given to authorities to help identify such crimes.

Supporters of the bill point out that such guidelines will make hate crimes more visible and encourage their prosecution. And with more accurate reporting, policy makers would be able to develop strategies for combating them. ■

Candidate Would Discriminate

State Assembly candidate Connie Youngkin says "I want to represent to my community as someone who (does not employ) people who are unethical in any way." She would fire Assembly staffers if she discovered they were gay or unrepentant about having an abortion.

In an interview with the *San Diego Tribune*, Youngkin stated that "if they were stiff-necked on something against Scripture, it would be real hard for me to keep them (staffers) on."

Youngkin, who has been twice convicted of blocking abortion clinics, is the only Republican challenger to 76th District Assemblywoman Tricia Hunter in the June primary. A Poway nurse and mother of three teenagers, Youngkin said she doesn't think her views are discriminatory. ■

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Gay Soap Producer Faces Network Homophobia

by Bonnie Duritsky
OF MGW STAFF

Steven Carrington, a member of the *Dynasty* clan, was a gay character, then a bisexual character, and finally a straight character. Jody on *Soap* was a flamboyant gay character who became bisexual, and from there he became straight.

David Gadberry doesn't understand how these changes happened. So he's decided to do a little changing of his own — he wants to revolutionize the way television handles gays. He wants a Steven Carrington who stays gay and gay couples included as regular characters on shows. "For some reason, the industry seems to be a lot on the homophobic side," said Gadberry.

Since networks have not done any policy changing, Gadberry gathered funds from gay businesses and produced a one-hour pilot called *Secret Passions*,

a gay soap opera. Characters include a black lesbian city council candidate, a gay J.R. Ewing-type land developer, a gay male couple — Gadberry stars as one side of that relationship — and a lesbian couple, a rock star and her manager. And since there always has to be a bad guy, Gadberry has created the conservative, crusading Rev. Arthur Dimsdale.

The \$12,000 pilot has been released to at least 19 markets, including New York, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, Houston, San Francisco, Nashville and Seattle. Gadberry has made talk show appearances and interviews pushing the show. He is looking for more funding to help the show move from public access channels to cable programming, but admits that network television may not be ready for his story lines and characters.

Being Gay Today will feature *Secret Passions* on April 23 at 10pm on Sacramento's Channel 47. ■

Superior Script Challenges Sacramento Theatre Company

by Jon Terry
OF MGW STAFF

There is something disarming about a play by Anton Chekhov, one of those few playwrights who defined the drama of his day as opposed to merely contributing to it. Free as we are to like or dislike the work or our "classic" playwrights, they are immune to the kind of criticism most playwrights endure. Couple Chekhov with translator David Mamet, the Pulitzer prize winning American playwright, and the script would seem almost holy; less palpable than a modern play.

Such a text is used for the current production of *The Cherry Orchard* at the Sacramento Theatre Company, the leading professional theatre in this town. The characters and ideas in this text are certainly palpable, and in this production, Chekhov's genius and Mamet's responsible homage to it are the main attractions.

But it is not a play until the other elements, namely acting, direction and design, breath life into the text so that it can happen on stage. This particular staging is unfortunately frugal with these breaths and leaves much of Chekhov's challenging text to stand alone, without help from the stage medium. Moments of powerful emotion are nipped in the bud, such as in a scene where Lyubov (Dee Maaske) bursts into tears at the sight of Petya, her dead son's former tutor, who now looks old and weak. She falls toward him, nearly dying of a broken heart. It is deeply moving — for about 15 seconds, which is how long it takes Lyubov to get over it. Suddenly she has dabbed away the tears and is chirping about old times with him. This was either a directorial choice to portray the house's matriarch as scarcely capable of real emotion, or it is the production's carelessness.

On the other hand, there is an element of Chekhov's play that is clearly conveyed in this production, which is the characterization of a society inescapably concerned with class. This is done with particular attention to servant and master relationships in the play. The cherry orchard and the house on it are to be sold off to pay the family's debts. Soon, the house's noble tenants and their servants will all be in the same boat; homeless, jobless and penniless. Tim McDonough plays Yermolay, whose father and

grandfather were servants in this very house, but he has made good and is able to purchase the orchard in the middle of the play. He is an unappealing character whose awkward movements and unkempt appearance present someone who can afford the same clothes the nobility have, but cannot wear them as well.

Also awkward, but less purposefully so, is the set. It is beautifully designed (by Jeff Hunt) with strikingly realistic trees reaching infinitely upward through the proscenium. But a series of folding dividers, which represent various walls of the house, block much of the show's important action. There is also one cumbersome scene change near the end which creates an unwelcome pause in the play.

Performances that stand out are Jan Akers as Charlotte, the

eccentric governess and Rick Gott as Yepikhodov, an understated yet highly comic "fool." Supporting characters are easier to compliment, for they usually do not bear the weight of the play's theme in their function; more often they play out only one aspect of it. Charlotte's magic tricks and dance-like movements are parallel to the orchard's mysterious beauty, and the painful humor Gott finds in Yepikhodov accurately captures the irony of the play.

So while this production is unable to arouse enough of our sympathy, particularly for the main characters, Lyubov and Yermolay, it does convey a fairly believable world that makes someone else's problems very important to an audience for 2½ hours. ■

STC Announces Next Season

by Jon Terry
OF MGW STAFF

The Sacramento Theatre Company has announced its 1990-91 season or at least most of it.

In September, they will open with *Driving Miss Daisy*, Alfred Uhry's Pulitzer prize winning play about the friendship that develops between an old Atlanta widow and her black chauffeur. The film, which recently won the Oscar for best picture, has already been seen by millions. But Mark Cuddy, STC's artistic director, expects an enthusiastic audience for the stage version, which is how it was originally done.

Then in October, *Heartbreak House*, by George Bernard Shaw, will be the first "classic" of the season. It will be followed by STC's traditional production of *A Christmas Carol* with their own musical adaptation by Richard Hellesen and music by David de Berry.

There is a slot in January that is not decided yet, and another in April. But in March, they are sure they will be doing Bertolt

Brecht's *The Good Person of Setzuan*, with an original score by David de Berry.

Choices for the two open slots have been narrowed down to four plays: *Glengarry Glen Ross*, David Mamet's most famous play; *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, by August Wilson who also wrote *Fences*; *Other People's Money*, the hugely successful off-Broadway play by Jerry Sterner; and finally *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, by Jane Wagner, which has to date only been performed as a one-woman show by Lily Tomlin. Cuddy says if STC gets the rights to do it, they will adapt it to be performed by several actors.

Also, an addition to this season has been made. Last October's very successful production of *Fences* will return to STC's main stage for a two week run from June 5 to 17. ■

Symphony Presents Two Different Versions of "Romeo and Juliet"

by Karl Greene
OF MGW STAFF

Music Director Carter Nice will lead the Sacramento Symphony on April 21, 22 & 23 in a program featuring two Russian composers' interpretations of Shakespeare's timeless classic *Romeo and Juliet* plus a clarinet concerto by the popular American composer Aaron Copland.

The Copland concerto will be performed by the symphony's principal clarinetist Brian Schweickhardt. He has had notable solo performances with the orchestra over the past six years. The Copland concerto was commissioned by jazz giant Benny Goodman and influenced by his style.

One of the *Romeo and Juliet* pieces is Tchaikovsky's *Fantasy Overture Romeo and Juliet*, a romantic exploration of the struggle between the Montagues and Capulets. The other is excerpts from Prokofiev's music from the modern ballet *Romeo and Juliet*.

On April 25 and 26 the orchestra will present a POPS concert with an evening of George Gershwin favorites! Brenda Tom, the orchestra's regular pianist, will perform the *Piano Concerto in F* and the orchestra will play the *Cuban Overture* and selections from *Porgy and Bess*.

For chamber music lovers, the last concert of the season by the Chamber Music Society will be Tuesday evening, April 17, 7:30pm at the First Methodist Church at 21 and J streets. The program will include a string

quintet by Schubert, a serenade for string trio by Dohnanyi, and a duo for violin and cello patterned after Handel, but written by Halvorsen. Tickets are \$10; call 443-2908 for information. ■

Applications Available for Theatre Festival

Applications are available for the Third Annual "Great Theatre Lives Here Festival," September 14-23, sponsored by the Sacramento Area Regional Theatre Alliance (SARTA). The Great Theatre Lives Here Festival is a series of free public performances.

Theatre organizations and individual theatre artists wishing to submit proposals for productions to be included in the festival can pick up applications for the event at the SARTA offices located at 2120 Royale Road. There are funds available to pay participating performers and groups. Deadline for applications is April 23. For information call 925-3303. ■

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Reflections on the Oscar Parade

by Matthew Kennedy
OF MGW STAFF

Ah, the rites of spring. Baseball. Cherry blossoms. The Academy Awards. I have always found the Oscars to be a shameless exercise. Awards are just as often given for politics or longevity as they are for artistic quality. The bloat of the proceedings is legendary; after four hours the dazed viewer is begging for an end to the stupefying production numbers, embarrassing speeches and even more embarrassing fashions. Still, I and millions of the faithful worldwide wait in giddy anticipation for the night of nights each year, when bad taste reigns supreme and the occasional poignant moment cuts through the ceremony like a flash of lightning.

In voting for the best of the year, the Academy had some tough choices to make as there is much to celebrate in the movies of 1989. The finest of last year included complex and challenging portraits of the historically disenfranchised: the physically disabled (*My Left Foot*, *Born on the Fourth of July*), blacks (Best Picture winner *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Glory*, *Do the Right Thing*), the elderly (*Driving Miss Daisy*) and Jews (*Enemies, A Love Story*). All are films of high integrity, and tears they may bring are well earned.

Consider the great and near-great movies of 1989 not nominated for best picture: *Glory*; *Enemies, A Love Story*; *Do the Right Thing*; *sex, lies, and videotape*; *Henry V*; *Crimes and Misdemeanors*; *Drugstore Cowboy* and the loopy cult movie *Heathers*. Had some of the above been released in a more typical year, they might have been leading contenders for the big prize. Let us not forget that in desperate times the Academy has nominated *Doctor Doolittle*, *Airport* and *The Towering Inferno* for best picture. By any standards, 1989 was a banner year for motion pictures.

What a shock it was to see a somewhat tight and well-produced Oscar ceremony this year. Not that the 62nd annual Academy Awards show, televised March 26 to over one billion people, was without its artistic atrocities. Coming to mind are the pointless dances accompanying the Best Costumes announcement, the insipid performances of insipid Best Song nominees and the sickly-sweet audience sing-a-long of *Over the Rainbow* led by (who else?) Diana Ross. This year's big experiment, satellite links to presenters in Sydney, London, Buenos Aires, Tokyo and Moscow, slowed things down and dimmed the suspense a bit. Still, Billy Crystal made an appropriately irreverent emcee, Best Actor presenter Jodie Foster was eloquent and refreshing and Chuck Workman's *One Hundred Years at The Movies* montage of over 330 film clips shown in rapid fire was dazzling. There was a surprising abundance of highly deserved awards accepted with gracious and articulate speeches. Notable highlights of the evening were appearances by all the acting winners (Brenda Fricker and Daniel Day Lewis for *My Left Foot*, Denzel Washington for *Glory* and Jessica Tandy for *Driving Miss Daisy*), Japanese director Akira Kurosawa accepting an honorary Oscar through an interpreter and Robert Epstein and Bill Couturie accepting the Best Documentary for *Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt*. The latest documentary winner is a mournful ode to four people who are memorialized in the AIDS quilt. Robert Epstein, you may recall, is the same filmmaker who made television history when he thanked his lover in accepting Best Documentary in 1985 for *The Times of Harvey Milk*. At this year's telecast he paid tribute to gays and lesbians for their leadership in the battle against AIDS.

If the best films of 1989 are any clue, we indeed have every reason to hope for a bright future to the American film industry. ■

Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt Wins Academy Award

Common Threads: Stories From the Quilt, critically acclaimed film about the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, won an Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary.

Common Threads is a portrait of the first decade of the AIDS epidemic in America. Through the Quilt, the film introduces five individuals who have died of AIDS; from an 11-year-old suburban boy to a gay Olympic athlete to an inner-city IV-drug user. Their lives before and after AIDS are recreated using home movies, photos and the recollections of friends, lovers and families. The film is narrated by Dustin Hoffman, and Bobby McFerrin composed and performs the original score.

Common Threads originally aired on HBO in October 1989

and was recently awarded the George Foster Peabody Award, the prestigious broadcast-industry award. The film will soon be available on videotape and is available from the NAMES Project. A special toll-free number has been established for the exclusive purpose of ordering the video: 1-800-USA-NAME. The price is \$25 and all profits support the ongoing activities of the NAMES Project Foundation.

Common Threads was directed by Academy Award winner Rob Epstein (*The Times of Harvey Milk*) and Jeffrey Friedman (*Faces of the Enemy*), and produced by Epstein, Friedman, and Bill Couturie (*Dear America: Letters Home From Vietnam*). Executive Producer was Sandollar: Howard Rosenman/Sandy Gallin/Carol Baum. ■

Enemies, A Love Story

by Matthew Kennedy
OF MGW STAFF

It has been said that art trivializes the Holocaust. No work, however lofty or heartfelt, can begin to recreate the horror of Nazi atrocities. Producer and Director Paul Mazursky (*Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice*, *An Unmarried Woman*) must have understood this when making his superb new film *Enemies, A Love Story*. With only the most brief glimpse of the catastrophic events that leave the lead characters emotionally devastated, Mazursky takes us on a funny and heartbreaking excursion. To his credit there is no compromise to either the intimate story at hand or the larger human tragedy of World War II.

Herman Broder (Ron Silver) is a Jewish refugee living in Coney Island in 1949 with his wife Yadviga (Margaret Sophie Stein), his family's former Polish servant. Yadviga, overly attentive to her husband, saved Herman's life during the war by hiding him from invading Nazis. To Herman, it is a marriage based on responsibility rather than genuine love. His love, or at least his passion, is saved for his mistress Masha (Lena Olin). Added to this uneasy mix is Herman's first wife Tamara (Anjelica Huston). She was left for dead during the war, reportedly slain by Nazis. The lies of Herman's precarious life begin to torment him, while with each woman he shares only a part of himself. With Yadviga he is an inadequate husband returning her dotage with indifference. With Masha he shares a torrid affair where sex masks deep and horrifying despair. With Tamara he shares sweet memories of their two children who perished in the war. Tamara is not a simple romantic; she knows Herman all too well, and speaks for the au-

dience when she declares him to be "a lost man." All four survive on the fringes of desperation, where friendship, love and religion can barely sustain a dwindling faith in humankind.

The costumes, sets and music of *Enemies, A Love Story* are perfect. The film is filled with such loving detail of streets, neighborhood folks, delicatessens, temples, subways, and cars that one can easily imagine all of post-war New York City spreading out beyond the screen. One is further taken by the ample humor and witty irony that fills the movie. The humor is never gratuitous; it is always from real human behavior sometimes pitiful and sometimes savage. Based on a book by Isaac Bashevis Singer, the film is further aided by a screenplay that provides us with rich characters to recognize as various mirrors of ourselves.

The greatest asset to *Enemies, A Love Story* is its performances. With the exception of Alan King as an oily rabbi, the performances are drawn with great skill. Silver embodies the man of supreme indecisiveness whose actions (or inaction) bring suffering to those near him. I wish that Silver's character had some minor redemptive qualities; he is dangerously close to being thoroughly unsympathetic. Margaret Sophie Stein plays the sincere and ever faithful wife with great integrity. She lets us feel Herman's neglect with stinging poignancy. Lena Olin plays Masha as a volatile and sensuous woman struggling to leave the past while barely able to admit it has already defeated her. Anjelica Huston brings warmth and wit to the role of Tamara. A spouse returning from the grave is a tawdry movie device, but Huston imbues Tamara with wisdom, nerve and pragmatism. Huston has been a majestic screen presence since her 1985 Oscar winning turn in *Prizzi's Honor*, and her performance here matches any she has done. The women of *Enemies, A Love Story* form an acting triumvirate the likes of which we all too rarely see.

Mazursky directs his cast with infinite care and subtlety. He has fashioned in *Enemies, A Love Story* a brilliant study of four people we come to know very well in two short hours. The closeness, sorrow and hope we feel for them when the movie comes to its bittersweet conclusion are real and deeply satisfying.

NOTE: *Enemies, A Love Story* will be available on video July 11, 1990. ■

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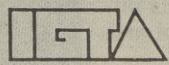


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Calendar

April

16 Monday

- 20th anniversary celebration of Earth Week, focus is ENERGY, info 447-8691.
- INCOME TAX DEADLINE!!!
- Being Gay Today, 10pm, Cable Ch. 47.

17 Tuesday

- AIDS Quilt Exhibition Reception, Lite Rail Gallery, 918 12 St. 5-9pm, 441-1013.
- Heart to Heart, 6:30-8pm, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 448-2437; focus—Enhancing the Positive.
- Celebrate Earth Week focus is RECYCLING.
- Three Men on a Horse, preview \$11, Sacramento Theatre Company, 1419 H St., 443-6722, 8pm.
- Photographs of China, Anita Frimkess Fein, Sharon Goff, Rebecca Gregg, University Union CSUS, Exhibition Lounge, reception 5-7pm, 278-7250 or 278-6595.
- PFLAG meeting 7:30pm, St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way, discussion, 444-9510.
- Being Gay Today, Cable Ch. 47, 5pm.
- "Quilting Bee," (Names Project Quilt Panels), Joseph's Town & Country, 7-10pm, Ralph 457-7920.
- Earth Awareness Forum Natural Foods Co-op, 1900 Alhambra Blvd. at S St. Transportation and Air Quality, Judith Lamara, 7-8:30pm, 455-2667.
- Gay/Lesbian AA Meetings in Grass Valley, St. Joseph's Hall, Bishop Room, 477-2101 (every Tues.) 7pm.
- Kelli Foley's Fine Art Neon Sculpture, thru April 21, 11am-5pm, Lite Rail Gallery, 918 12th St. 441-1013.

18 Wednesday

- Celebrate Earth Week, focus is WATER.
- Three Men on a Horse, see April 17.
- Being Gay Today, Cable Ch. 47, noon.
- NOW general meeting, Coloma Comm. Center, 4623 T St. 7-9pm.
- Earth Week Rally, Capitol steps, Noon.
- Special Tribute to Larry Porter of 'Visionz' 9pm Cable Ch. 47.

19 Thursday

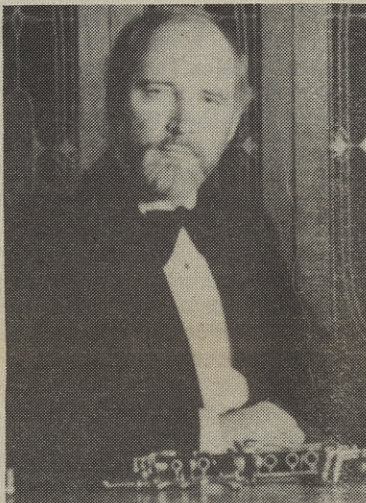
- Celebrate Earth Week, focus is ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION.
- Three Men on a Horse, see April 17.
- Seascape with Sharks and Dancer, Miriam Gray's Acting Studio, 24th St. Theatre, Sierra 2, 2791 24th St., 8pm, \$10, 443-3188.
- Being Alive Living room drop-in social setting for persons with AIDS and HIV disease, refreshments, games, conversation, 2-5pm, Lambda Community center, 1931 L St., 442-0185.
- Merry Widow, Davis Comic Opera Co., Veterans Memorial Theatre, 14th & B St., Davis, \$10, \$8, 8:15pm, 758-3262.
- Midtown Business Assoc. Mixer, 6-7:30pm, Hamilton Photography, 2512 J St. 442-9033.

20 Friday

- Sacramento Spring Antique Show & Sale, Scottish Rite Temple, 6151-H St., benefit Make A Wish Foundation, thru April 22.
- Celebrate Earth Week, focus is TOXICS.
- Three Men on a Horse, \$19, see April 17.
- Seascape with Sharks and Dancer, see April 19.
- On the Darkside, Chautauqua Playhouse, 8pm, \$9, 5325 Engle Rd., Ste. 100, Carmichael, 489-7529.
- Merry Widow see April 19.
- SACWN, Roberta Achtenberg, 6:30pm, \$12, \$15; Holiday Inn Northeast, Madison & I-80; 486-8985.
- Gay/Lesbian AA meetings, Auburn, Sierra Family Services Building, 319 Maple St. info: 888-6860, every Friday.
- Cafe Lambda, 8-12pm, gourmet coffees and desserts, Lambda Comm. Center, 1931 L St.

21 Saturday

- Men's Outreach and Education "Boot Camp '90," sponsored by Sacramento AIDS Foundation, designed for health educators, outreach workers and others spreading the prevention message; \$5, 1900 K St., No. 201, 448-2437, thru April 22.
- Picnic Day—UC Davis, 9:30am; 752-6320.
- Bodega Bay Fishermen's Festival, fishing boat parade, blessing of fleet, arts, crafts (707) 875-2448, thru April 22.
- Celebrate Earth Week, focus is NATURE APPRECIATION.
- Three Men on a Horse, see April 17, \$19.
- Seascape with Sharks and Dancer, see April 19.
- On the Darkside see April 20.
- Sacramento Symphony, "Two Russian Romeo and Juliet's," 8pm, Sacramento Community Center.



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- Coming of Age, spring run to Clear Lake Valley Knights Motorcycle Club, Inc., \$45, deadline for applications April 14, Mike 455-6540.
- Merry Widow, see April 19.
- Gay & Lesbian Literature Conference; UCLA campus, 9:30am-5:30pm, \$55, (213) 825-9415.
- Relationship Series; Conflict Resolution; 10am-5pm, \$85, Teresa Phillips, MFCC & Elizabeth Grimaldi, LCSW, 441-1866.
- CGNIE Coronation, Turin Vein Hall, 8pm.

22 Sunday

- Dignity liturgy, St. Francis Chapel, 26th & K St.
- EARTH DAY — 1990
- 14th Annual Wine Tasting, 35 wineries, food, at several historic buildings in Columbia, (209) 532-1479.
- Three Men on a Horse, 2pm, 7pm, \$16, see April 17.
- Sacramento Symphony, 3pm, see April 21.
- SAGA Golf, noon, Haggin Oaks, 443-6440.
- Gay Softball Ninos Park, noon, Buffalo Club v Merc; 2pm, Wreck Room v FACES.
- The Merry Widow, 2:30pm, see April 19.
- Natural Food Co-op Community Gallery, works of Milo, opening 7pm.

23 Monday

- Being Gay Today, 10pm, Cable Ch. 47. Premiere, "Secret Passions," gay soap opera.
- Sacramento Symphony, 7:30pm, see April 21.
- Georg Shearing — Chanticleer Concert; benefit Project Open Hand, Davies Symphony Hall, SF; 8pm, \$18-\$100. (415) 431-5400.

24 Tuesday

- Heart to Heart, see April 17; focus—Exploring Male Sexuality.
- Three Men on a Horse, 6:30pm, \$16, see April 17.
- World Day for the Liberation of Animals from Laboratories, UCD campus, 5pm.
- Being Gay Today, 5pm, Cable Ch. 47.
- Earth Awareness Forum; Reducing Toxics in Your Home, Herb Burton, see April 17.

25 Wednesday

- Three Men on a Horse, 6:30pm, \$16, see April 17.
- Being Gay Today, Cable Ch. 47, noon.
- Women's Empowerment Workshop Spiritual Power; orientation for May 4-6 weekend workshop; 7:30pm. Threshold Educational & Counseling Services, \$150. 455-1168.

26 Thursday

- Institute for Design and Experimental Art (I.D.E.A.) presents Gallery So To Do—international and local artists, reception 7pm, 452-0949; exhibition through May 6.
- Three Men on a Horse, \$16, see April 17.
- Seascape with Sharks and Dancer, see April 19.
- T-Bone & Weasel, Stage Two, Sacramento Theatre Company, 1419 H St., 8pm, \$8, 443-6722.
- Being Alive Living Room, see April 19.
- The Merry Widow, \$8/\$6, see April 19.
- Hunter Davis, The Palms, 8pm, 756-9901.



Hunter Davis

- Ask About AIDS, Cable Ch. 47, 9pm, Gay Community and AIDS.

27 Friday

- PILLARS, Sacramento Men's Chorus, 6pm, Sierra Inn, res. 455-1771.
- The Cavedwellers, Sacramento City Actors Theatre, 3835 Freeport Blvd., 449-SCAT.
- Reception and wine tasting, 6-9pm, Crocker Art Museum, \$10, 449-5423.
- Monterey Bay Hang Gliding Steeplechase, Asilomar State Beach, Pacific Grove, (408) 649-2836 thru April 29.
- Three Men on a Horse, \$19, see April 17.
- Seascape with Sharks and Dancer, see April 19.

Run Away And Join the Circus!

Arden Fair Mall will celebrate its completion with Circus Gala Fantastique, a grand opening event benefiting the Crocker Art Museum and the Sacramento Symphony. Guests will view the expanded mall, dine on international cuisines created by area restaurateurs and caterers, and enjoy the circus under the Big Top. Guests are encouraged to come in circus-themed attire or black tie.

The event will take place in Phase II of Arden Fair Mall,

Arden Way and Highway 80. Guests will enter through the main entrance in front of Nordstrom on Friday, May 4 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$100 per person. Includes all food, hosted bar and grand circus-entertainment. All proceeds will equally benefit the Crocker Art Museum and the Sacramento Symphony. Checks made out to Circus Gala Fantastique, Sacramento Symphony, 77 Cadillac Drive, Suite 101, 95825. ■



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- T-Bone and Weasel, see April 26.
- On the Darkside, see April 20.
- The Merry Widow, Champagne Gala, \$15, see April 19.
- "Lioness" reading, Nisa Donnelly; author, The Bar Stories, 2224 J St., 7pm, 442-4657.
- Ask About AIDS, see April 26, 4pm.
- Cafe Lambda, see April 20.

28 Saturday

- Outdoor Adventures of Sacramento, Day Hike in the Sierra Nevada, Stan 441-3285.
- The Cavedwellers, see April 27.
- The Names Project "Memories that Move," 10am-8pm, Sacramento Convention Center, info to 441-6428; opening ceremonies 10am.
- "Golden Girls," BACW, 8:30pm-1:30am, Hyatt Regency Oakland Ballroom (11th & Broadway, Oakland), \$25 adv, \$30 door, members (including SACWN), \$35 adv, \$40 door, non-members (415) 495-5393 (dance to the Big Band sound of CITY SWING).
- 11th Annual Evaluation and Appraisal Day, 10am-3:30pm, Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., 449-5423.
- Asparagus Festival, Oak Grove Regional Park, Stockton, (209) 943-5751 thru April 29.
- Antique Show & Sale, Sutter Creek (209) 267-0603 thru April 29.
- Konocli Cup, annual sailing races, Konocli Harbor Inn, Kelseyville (707) 277-7245 thru April 29.
- Three Men on a Horse, see April 17.
- Seascape with Sharks and Dancer, see April 19.

- T-Bone and Weasel, see April 26.
- On the Darkside, see April 20.
- The Merry Widow, see April 19.

- NOW sponsored concert, "Two Friends and a Chair," Coloma Comm. Center, 7:30-9:30pm.
- FAWN Spring Frolic and Potluck.
- Ask About AIDS, see April 26, 11am.

29 Sunday

- The Names Project Quilt see April 28.
- Blessing of the fleet, opening day sailing, San Francisco Bay.
- Three Men on a Horse, 2pm, 7pm, \$16, see April 17.
- World Week for Liberation of Animals from Laboratories, No. Calif. event, UC San Francisco, noon.
- T-Bone and Weasel, 2pm, see April 26.
- Gay Softball League 21st & C St., noon Wreck Room v Buffalo Club; 2pm, FACES v Mercantile.

30 Monday

- The Names Project Quilt see April 27.
- Being Gay Today, 10pm, Cable Ch. 47.

May

1 Tuesday

- Three Men on a Horse, Sacramento Theatre Company, 1419 H St., 443-6722, 6:30pm, \$16.
- Being Gay Today, Cable Ch. 47, 5pm.
- Earth Awareness Forum, Natural Foods Co-op, 1900 Alhambra Blvd; 7-8:30pm; Regional Water Conservation, Sac. Water Concerns; Allan Aguilar, Tony Fontes, 455-2667.
- Heart to Heart, (men's support group); Dealing Positively with Loss and Grief, Sac. AIDS Foundation, 1900 K St., 6:30-8pm, 448-2437.

2 Wednesday

- Three Men on a Horse, see May 1.
- Outdoor Adventures of Sacramento, monthly potluck/meeting, Stan 441-3285 or Rick 795-4654.

3 Thursday

- Three Men on a Horse, 8pm, see May 1.
- Being Alive Living Room, a drop in social setting for persons with AIDS and HIV Disease, refreshments, games, conversation, 2-5pm, Lambda Comm. Center, 1931 L St., 442-0185.

4 Friday

- Three Men on a Horse, 8pm, see May 1.
- The Cave Dwellers, Sac. City Actors Theatre, 3835 Freeport Blvd., 449-SCAT, 8pm.
- Angel Street (A Victorian Thriller), Woodland Opera House, \$9, Sen/Stu \$7, 8pm, 666-9617.
- On the Darkside, Chautauqua Playhouse, 8pm, \$9, 5325 Engle Rd., Ste. 100, Carmichael, 489-7529.



- Circus Gala Fantastique, fundraiser for Crocker Art Museum and Sac. Symphony; celebrating completion of Phase 2 at Arden Fair Mall; 7:30pm, \$100, 646-3525.
- Women's Weekend Russian River, thru May 6.

5 Saturday

- The Courage to Recover, workshop for adult children from dysfunctional families, 10am-4:30pm, \$50 (or \$35 2 wks. in advance); 344-0249.
- Three Men on a Horse, 8pm, see May 1.
- The Cave Dwellers, see May 4.
- Angel Street, see May 4.
- 13th Annual Sac. Cactus and Succulent Society Plant Show and Sale, Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., 2-6pm, free.
- On the Darkside, see May 4.
- Conference for Catholic Lesbians meeting, 362-4133.

6 Sunday

- Three Men on a Horse, 2pm, 7pm, see May 1.
- Softball — FACES v. Buffalo Club, noon; Wreck Room v. Mercantile, 2pm; 21st & C.
- The Cave Dwellers, 2pm, see May 4.
- Angel Street, 2pm, see May 4.
- Cactus and Succulent Society Plant Sale & Show, 10am-5pm, see May 5.
- Literary Sunday Series, Sac. Theatre Co., John Bashevis Singer's work read by Peter Greenberg, 2pm, 1419 H St. 446-7501.
- SACAOR (Sac. Area Coalition Against Operation Rescue) meeting, 2-5pm, Davis; info, 443-7876.

7 Monday

- Healthy Living Series, Family Conflicts-Talking It Out, Irene Williams, LCSW, Sac. AIDS Foundation, 1900 K St., 7-9pm, 448-2437.
- Being Gay Today, 10pm, Cable Ch. 47.

8 Tuesday

- Three Men on a Horse, 6:30pm, see May 1.
- Earth Awareness Forum, Living Without Plastics, Mark Murray, see May 1.
- Being Gay Today, 5pm, Cable Ch. 47.
- Heart to Heart (men's support group); Advocating for Yourself, Sac. AIDS Foundation, 1900 K St., 6:30-8pm, 448-2437.

9 Wednesday

- Three Men on a Horse, 6:30pm, see May 1.

10 Thursday

- Three Men on a Horse, 8pm, see May 1.
- Being Alive Living Room, see May 3.

11 Friday

- Three Men on a Horse, 8pm, see May 1.
- The Cave Dwellers, see May 4.
- On the Darkside, see May 4.

12 Saturday

- Three Men on a Horse, 8pm, see May 1.
- 1st Annual Diamond Bowl, celebrity softball game, LA/Oakland Raiders v. SF 49ers, Sac. softball complex, I-80 & Watt Ave., 7pm, \$10.50, \$5.50 fundraiser for St. Albans Country Day School, info 782-3505.
- The Cave Dwellers, see May 4.
- The High Wheelers Barbershop Chorus, Woodland Opera House, 8pm, 666-4065, tickets.
- On the Darkside, see May 4.

13 Sunday

- SAGA Golf, 10am Bing Maloney; Norm, 443-6440.
- Three Men on a Horse, 2pm, 7pm, see May 1.
- Mother's Day Picnic and Rally, NOW, McKinley Park, noon-5pm.
- Blathlon race, ARCO Arena, 9am start, (packet pick up, 6-8am), \$30 indiv. \$40 relay teams (619) 221-5555.

- The Cave Dwellers, 2pm, see May 4.
- On the Darkside, 2pm, see May 4.

14 Monday

- Internalized Homophobia, educational forum, Sac. CAP/PAC, at the Town House, 1517 21st St., 5:30-7:30pm, \$7, adv., \$8 door, 920-9587.
- Being Gay Today, 10pm, Cable Ch. 47.

15 Tuesday

- Earth Awareness Forum, Sac. Natural Foods Co-op, 1900 Alhambra Blvd., 7-8:30pm; Recycling: It's a Capitol Idea, Dan Regan, info, 455-2667.
- Being Gay Today, Cable Ch. 47, 5pm.
- Heart to Heart (men's support group), The Hazards of Being Male, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 1900 K St. 6:30-8pm, 448-2437.
- PFLAG meeting, 7:30pm, St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Wy., 444-9510.

16 Wednesday

- Beginning Black & White Photography, 6:30-9:30pm, Gene Kennedy, The Dark Room, 708 57th St., \$135, 454-4906, (thru June 20).

17 Thursday

- Being Alive Living Room, a drop-in social setting for persons with AIDS and HIV disease, refreshments, games, conversation, 2-5pm, Lambda Comm. Center, 1931 L St., 442-0185.

18 Friday

- The Cave Dwellers, Sac. City Actors Theatre, 3835 Freeport Blvd., 449-SCAT, 8pm.
- On the Darkside, Chautauqua Playhouse, 8pm, \$9, 5325 Engle Rd., Ste. 100, Carmichael, 489-7529.
- Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club annual dinner and birthday celebration; P.O. Box 14368, San Francisco, CA 94114.

19 Saturday

- Relationship Series; Sexuality, 10am-5pm, \$85, Teresa Phillips, MFCC & Elizabeth Grimaldi, LCSW, 441-1866.
- Wellspring Women's Center Golf Tournament, Haggis Oaks Golf Course; 481-9445.
- Sacramento Natural Food Co-op Community Awareness Festival; Art Show "Make Every Day Earth Day."
- The Cave Dwellers, see May 18.
- On the Darkside, see May 18.
- "Fear of Others," Art Against Racism, Accurate Art Gallery, Reception 7-9pm, exhibition thru May 31, 442-1771.

20 Sunday

- Softball FACES v Wreck Room, noon; Buffalo Club v. Mercantile, 2pm, 21st & C sts.
- Shakespeare's Lovers and Other Strange Creatures, *5, sen/stu \$3, 2pm, 666-9617.
- On the Darkside, 2pm, see May 18.
- SACAOR meeting, Sac., 3-6pm, 443-7876.

21 Monday

- Being Gay Today, Cable Ch. 47, 10pm.

22 Tuesday

- Earth Awareness Forum Evolution of a Farmer: Multiland Use Farming to Natural Biological Diversity Preservation, Frank Maurer, see May 15.
- Being Gay Today, Cable Ch. 47, 5pm.
- Heart to Heart, (men's support group); Intimacy; Sac. AIDS Foundation, 1900 K St., 6:30-8pm, 448-2437.

25 Friday

- 5th National Conference for Catholic Lesbians, Aspen Lodge, Estes Park, Colorado; \$235 (includes accommodations, meals, events); (212) 562-8922; thru May 28.
- The Cave Dwellers, see May 18.

June

- 2 — CAP/PAC Dinner Meeting/Dance, Sac. Comm. Center, Bella Abzug.
- 15 — 14th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, thru June 24, (415) 861-5245.
- 16 — Lambda Freedom Fair, 10am-7pm, McKinley Park.
- 20 — 6th International Conference on AIDS, San Francisco, thru June 24, (415) 550-0880.
- 23 — Physique 90, Herbst Theatre, SF (annual national lesbian and gay bodybuilding championship).
- 24 — SF Gay Pride Parade.

August

- 4 — Celebration '90: Gay Games III and Cultural Festival, thru Aug. 11, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.
- 15 — 15th Annual Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, thru Aug. 19; WWTMC, Box 22, Waltham, MI 49458.

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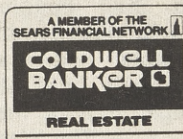
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Gay Rights Victory In Marin County

The Novato School Board stood up to homophobes early in January voting five to two to add "homosexuality, heterosexuality and bisexuality" to an anti-discrimination policy after a powerful show of gay support. The board decided to add sexual orientation to the policy as part of a routine review of anti-discrimination policies. But, the move became a rallying point for a fundamentalist group called Citizens for Excellence in Education, and other homophobes. The January meeting was "a complete reverse" of a meeting held in November on the same subject, according to the school district public information director. Gays and lesbians were barely represented at the November meeting, but in January they turned up with their children and supporters in tow.

— The Sentinel

Stipicevich Recall Attempt Fails

Fremont — In a major turnaround for gay politics in the East Bay, gay school board member Robert Stipicevich successfully quashed a recall attempt by Christian fundamentalists early in January. Despite an unprecedented last-ditch appeal by the fundamentalists, the homophobic Fremont Family Alliance did not garner the needed 12,000 signatures to put the measure on the ballot. The Fremont Family Alliance vowed to renew the battle against Stipicevich if he decides to seek re-election in November. Stipicevich said it is too early to determine if he will seek re-election.

— The Sentinel

War Hero May Oppose Anti-Gay Congressman

Santa Ana — Vietnam veteran and anti-war activist Ron Kovic is being wooed by leading Democrats to run against anti-gay Congressman Bob Dornan. Kovic has recently gained national prominence with the release of the new Tom Cruise movie *Born on the Fourth of July*, which chronicles his life story. Members of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee traveled to Southern California to meet with Kovic and to encourage him to run against the outspoken, arch-conservative Dornan.

— The Sentinel

Man Murdered While Defending Gay Man

Washington, D.C. — Three young men were ejected from a gay bar for harassing patrons. When another patron left the bar, one of the men began taunting him and demanding he perform oral sex. Michael Warren intervened to defend the victim and became a victim himself when one of the taunters challenged him to a fight. When the taunter approached Warren he drew a gun and shot him. After Warren fell to the ground, the assailant came close and fired another shot into his chest. Warren was pronounced dead 45 minutes later in the hospital. The attacker, Mark A. Dinkins, 18, a resident of the neighborhood, has been charged with first-degree murder.

— The Washington Blade

Skinhead Gets 15-40 Years for Baseball Attack on Gay Man

Washington, D.C. — A Superior Court judge sentenced convicted skinhead gang member David M. McCall, 19, to concurrent prison terms that could last a maximum of 40 years for the September 1988 baseball beating of a gay

Page 8 MOM...GUESS WHAT! NEWSPAPER April 15, 1990

man. The judge called the youth's participation in the gay bashing attack against Rod Johnson an inexcusable and premeditated act directed against gays. A Superior Court jury convicted McCall and gang member Mark G. Hyder, 18, on the twin charges of armed robbery and assault with intent to kill while armed. Hyder is scheduled to be sentenced in March.

— The Washington Blade

Judge Dismisses Injunction Suit Against Frank

Washington, D.C. — A Superior Court judge dismissed a suit which sought to have the court order U.S. Rep. Barney Frank to eschew "conduct involving prostitution and lewdness in the District of Columbia." The suit was filed by former D.C. Moral Majority leader Rev. Cleveland Sparrow, Holy Comforter Baptist Church minister Rev. John Martin, and George Washington University law professor John Banhaf. The trio filed the suit "because the U.S. Attorney has refused even to begin a formal criminal investigation" of Frank "despite the fact that he has confessed that he paid for the services of a male prostitute who then provided sex for sale in and from Frank's apartment."

— The Washington Blade

Visitation Suit May Set Legal Standards For Gay Parents

New York State — In the first case of its kind to reach an appellate court, a lesbian is seeking visitation rights with a child born to her ex-partner. Officials with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which is representing the lesbian, say that the case may establish legal standards regarding non-biological lesbian parents. The two women met in 1977 and began a relationship. Several years later, they decided to have children and one became pregnant through donor insemination and gave birth to a son in 1981. Two years later the other gave birth to a daughter. Several months later the two ended their couple relationship. Each took her birth-child. One mother had visited the son regularly until his birth-mother began limiting the visits.

— The Washington Blade

Doctor Loses Membership in Medical Society

Salt Lake City — A federal judge denied a doctor's request for a court order restoring his membership in the Salt Lake County Medical Society after it had stripped his membership following allegations that he engaged in unprofessional conduct with three adolescent boys. The doctor filed suit against the society and the Utah Medical Association, saying they violated his rights to due process. He contends in his suit that he was discriminated against because society officials think he is gay.

— The Washington Blade

Lawyer Loses License

Des Moines, Iowa — The Iowa Supreme Court supported a decision by the Iowa Bar Association to revoke the license of an attorney who pleaded guilty to having sexual relations with an 11-year-old boy. Attorney Douglas Lindaman blamed his conduct on his heterosexual upbringing, which, he said, caused him to deny his homosexuality. That denial, he said, caused him confusion and provoked him to seek sexual relations with the boy.

— The Washington Blade

Anti-Bias Laws Unconstitutional?

San Francisco — San Francisco's anti-discrimination ordinance is in jeopardy of being ruled unconstitutional in a civil lawsuit that has been making its way quietly through the San Francisco Superior Court. Lawyers for Western Union, the defendant in the case, argue that the city ordinance, which outlaws discrimination on the basis of "race, religion, color, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, disability or place of birth," conflicts with the state Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), and is consequently void. The FEHA prohibits some discrimination but does not include sexual orientation. Lawyers for the plaintiff, who claims he was discriminated against because he is gay, say that since the city ordinance adds to the FEHA but does not directly contradict it, it is not "preempted" by state law. At issue is the section of FEHA which states: "It is the intention of the legislature to occupy the field of discrimination in employment and housing..."

— San Francisco Sentinel

Hate Crimes Jump

San Francisco — Nearly four times as many lesbians were victims of violence in 1989 as in 1988, according to a report by Community United Against Violence (CUAV), which documented an overall increase in anti-gay violence of 67 percent for the year. Acknowledging a real increase in violence against lesbians and gays, CUAV cited heightened awareness of CUAV as partially responsible for the increase in the number of reports to the agency. The most dramatic increases were in crimes against women, people in neighborhoods where hate-violence had previously been rare, and outside the city.

— San Francisco Sentinel

"Ex-Gays" Slam "Reparative Therapy"

Santa Ana — Two founders of a major Christian counseling program purporting to "heal" homosexuals denounced the program as a dangerous failure that has caused severe psychological damage to participants. Michael Busse and Gary Cooper told reporters that Exodus International, which they were instrumental in founding, did not "heal" a single gay man while they were connected with the organization from 1976 to 1979. Not only did the program fail to eradicate same-gender sexual desire, but it also drove many participants to suicidal despair.

— San Francisco Sentinel

Ex-Convict Accused of Killing Gay Pen Pal

San Clemente — An ex-convict was captured along with his two accomplices after a cross-country killing spree that left at least four of his gay prison pen-pals dead. The three were arrested in a SWAT team raid on the home of another pen-pal whom police believe would have been the next victim. When arrested they had credit cards belonging to one of the slain men. Keith Goodman apparently established contact with the four men, and about 20 others, through pen-pal services while he was in prison for the rape and robbery of an 80-year-old woman.

— Los Angeles Times

Happy
Easter

by Dr. Jim Czajowski
OF MGW STAFF

I was told by my vet that my Shar-pei has allergies. Is there an easy way to find out what he is allergic to?

Allergies in dogs and cats is a common and serious problem here in Sacramento. Pages and pages could be written on this topic covering different diagnostic and treatment plans. But in regard to specifically identifying the CAUSE of the allergy, diagnosis used to be a difficult and often times painful process. Like us humans, animals can be allergic to a multitude of different items. Some animals react to items they come in contact with, such as wool, grass, and other beddings. Other pets react to inhaled antigens such as pollen, ragweed, dust, etc. Food allergies are also common in pets, especially to certain dyes, preservatives, and fillers in certain diets. The most common allergy seen in pets is an allergic reaction to the saliva from the bite of a flea. No matter what the cause of the allergy may be the result is the same — an animal that itches intensely and chews excessively. To determine the culprit triggering the allergy used to be time consuming, complicated, and uncomfortable to the animal. The only way to determine the source of an allergy in the recent past was to put the animal under general anaesthesia, shave its sides, inject samples of various products under the skin, and wait a few

days to see which spots react. Today a veterinarian simply collects a small sample of blood from the pet and sends it to a lab where the serum is tested for allergies. Armed with the results, your veterinarian can design a specific, effective program of treatment.

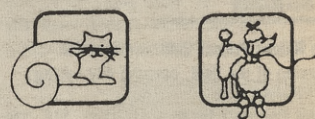
Wanted: Dog Food Labels

The Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has announced its participation in a nationwide fundraising program that enables people to provide financial aid to the shelter without actually contributing cash. The program is called the Gaines Shelter Cash-In Plan. It asks dog owners to save starved price markers and can labels from Gaines products. They in turn redeem them for cash from the manufacturer.

All Gaines products have either a starved price marker or label and each is needed for cash. Call 383-7387 or visit the Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 6201 Florin-Perkins Rd., CA 95828 for more details. ■

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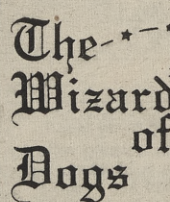
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Interview with Sheppard B. Kominars: Journey into Joy

by Joanne Marrow, Ph.D.
OF MGW STAFF

Sheppard Kominars, author of *Accepting Ourselves, the Twelve Step Journey of Recovery from Addiction for Gay Men and Lesbians* reveals one gay man's odyssey of coming of age in the 1950s, a difficult and tragic middle years, and a joyous emergence into the last third of his life. His is a message of courage, hope and love to those in the gay community who are lost in alcoholism.

In a candid interview, Sheppard Kominars reveals himself to be a fascinating, complex, gentle and open man. He began his story with a tale of the frustrating experience of being lost in Sacramento. He could see his destination, the Hilton hotel on Harvard Street, from the freeway. But the location of the small street which led to it eluded him, as he drove around in circles. This is his metaphor for life with alcohol. Happiness is the hotel, seemingly available on the horizon, but the alcoholic is lost, experiencing frustration and dread, as she cannot find her way to a place where everyone else can go.

Sheppard was raised in an Old World family where alcohol was simply part of the "good life." Intelligent and driven to achieve success and status, he earned his B.A. in philosophy by age 20. He went on to a Ph.D. and recounts the fun and excitement of participating in the gay underground culture of New York City in the 1950s. After graduation, he vacationed in San Francisco, fell in love with the city and a man, and decided to stay. He had found what he wanted. A three week long and unsuccessful job search led him to a decision which changed the course of his life. He returned to the East Coast to find professional success.

Kominars found himself the unwilling victim of McCarthy Era homophobia when unfounded innuendos about his sexual preference surfaced around him as a teacher. In his mid-20s, his goal to be a university president already set, Sheppard saw his career plans in jeopardy. Powerful fears, perhaps calmed by alcohol, compelled him to once again turn away from his original life course. His family had instilled in him a duty to carry on the family name. He was the only child in his generation. He had a loving friendship with a woman who was aware of his homosexuality. She, in a romantic moment on a public Atlantic beach, accepted his marriage proposal, to the beaming applause of the onlooking sunworshippers. And so, Sheppard entered his middle years of "pretending to be heterosexual."

Sheppard placed himself on a rocket ship to the "perfect happy life." But his secret, isolated

agony was that while he did have "everything," happiness and inner joy escaped him. He was following the cultural program which was supposed to make him happy, but in his case the program was ineffective.

Kominars describes these hard-working years as personally rewarding in many ways. He loved being a spouse and father. He loved his work, which became more and more consuming. He acquired a house, a vacation condo, property, luxury cars, and an international reputation in his business. He enjoyed entertaining in his beautiful family home, generously treating his guests to the best whiskey in Waterford crystal and gourmet dinners prepared with the best wines. But beneath this facade was an isolated man who, when the desire for male companionship painfully surfaced, sought con-

tact in secret and brief forays into the gay scene. Often he experienced rejection and further isolation when he revealed that he was married. It seemed there was no place for him.

Sheppard says of himself during this period that he was a "maintenance alcoholic." He drank frequent and small amounts of alcohol to always maintain a certain amount of the drug in his body. He rarely was drunk and then, usually in private. Yet it seems that "maintenance alcoholic" has another meaning in his case. Alcohol allowed him to numb his deep and sensitive feeling self. By anesthetizing his emotions, alcohol permitted him to maintain his pretense at heterosexuality. But the insidious nature of alcohol is how it circles back on the problem of personal isolation and intensifies it into an inex-

orable whirlpool of despair.

The truth about human nature is that our spirit needs and yearns for the joy of real and celebratory intimacy and connection with one another. Sensing the pain of this loss, but finding it unnameable, Sheppard found intimacy with his favorite drink, rum and grapefruit juice. But numbing oneself with alcohol presents yet another barrier to intimacy with another person. The solution, more alcohol.

Sheppard found himself at the brink of death. Looking into death, he found his deepest self. An automobile accident left him in continuous, and complete physical agony. Lost in this new physical pain his isolation was total. His marital relationship was a shambles; he separated from his wife. Still he sought escape in throwing himself into his work, abetted by a combination of rum

and valium. As he experienced his physical deterioration, he planned to commit suicide by throwing himself from his 16th story balcony. He was unaware that Death stood behind his left shoulder each time he dosed himself with rum and valium.

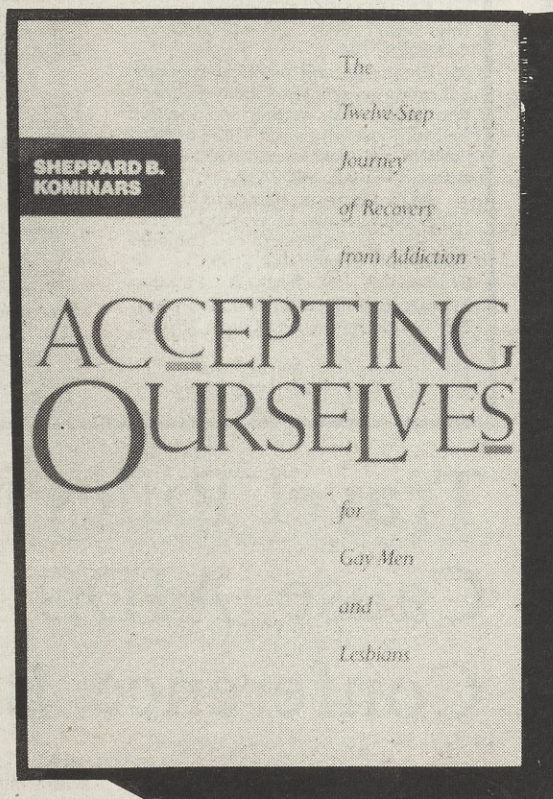
In a serendipitous event, the cosmic force gave Sheppard the opportunity he did not know he craved. Ironically, the subject of his research was "why families fall apart." A colleague suggested that he attend an AA meeting as part of his research. Open to the event as a purely intellectual pursuit, Sheppard found himself at the meeting wondering if he might himself be an alcoholic. The openness, acceptance and sharing which he saw at this meeting was a wedge into his isolation and a gift of hope of human intimacy. Kominars surrendered himself to the gift of self-acceptance and once again dramatically altered his life.

The first vapors of self-acceptance coalesced into a decision to try sobriety for three months, just to test his hypothesis that he was an alcoholic. To his amazement, Sheppard began to experience better physical health. As he detoxified from alcohol and valium, he became aware that his death had been approaching through his drug abuse and not from the direct results of his accident. Buoyed by better health he assumed the rigorous task of recovery using the Twelve Step Program.

Today, after years of sobriety and working on himself to break the barriers of isolation which caged him for most of his adult life, Kominars radiates a quiet, lion-hearted and loving sensibility. His years of trapping his strong emotions in the bottle left him with a warehouse of feelings to experience, examine and release. Twenty years of rage imploded within him to be followed by disorientation, anxiety, despair and depression. He was assisted on this part of his journey by the strength and hope of therapists and sponsors.

Sheppard has found his happiness which he says is "to be who I am." He says that "finding joy is the responsibility of anyone" and we should take our freedom to find joy. His message to gay alcoholics is that there always is hope and help and be open to receiving it from a sponsor. Take the first step from the isolating despair of your drug. Make a human connection through an AA or NA group and you will find the miracle of yourself.

Kominars' journey into joy has strangely taken him back to where he began. He lives in San Francisco with his sober lover in a long-term relationship. He pursues sobriety with a healthy lifestyle marked by the intimacy of offering his experience, strength, courage and hope to gay people in recovery. He has transformed his personal tragedy into a celebration of life. ■



Accepting Ourselves: The Twelve-Step Journey of Recovery From Addiction for Gay Men and Lesbians

by Joanne Marrow, Ph.D.
OF MGW STAFF

The struggle for recovery from alcohol and drug abuse is a difficult and sometimes terrifying one of learning to live an entirely new life. Alcoholics Anonymous, as an organization and philosophy, has become a miraculous uniquely American institution which offers a path to the clarity of sobriety. Yet gay people often feel left out in this group where their special issues may not be understood. In this small book, Sheppard Kominars, a gay man, writes

the AA philosophy in a style which will be inspirational to lesbians and gay men.

In a general way, Kominars discusses the issues of growing up as a gay child and learning to feel one must protect oneself from a hostile heterosexual world. He urges the gay alcoholic to examine how this situation results in a sense of victimization, guilt, shame, secrecy, rigidity and fear. Only in confronting these feelings, can one learn how to bring the emotional self into a happy balance.

Kominars takes a positive approach in suggesting that the gay alcoholic has learned a survival strategy that is

short-sighted and negative in the long run. One goal is to take a methodical approach to sobriety as a long-term project which involves learning new strategies which result in happiness and balance.

Gay people are urged to support one another's growth and celebration of sobriety in gay AA meetings. Sobriety for the gay person can mean the discovery of community, gay pride, personal intimacy and self-caring.

This book is available at Judy's Gifts and Books, 2231 J Street, 443-3236 and at Lioness Books, 2224 J Street, 442-4657. Gay AA meetings listed in MGW Organizations, Misc.

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HIV + Gay Man Sentenced to Life Imprisonment for Child Molestation

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Boise, Idaho — A gay man who tested HIV + was sentenced to life imprisonment without possibility of parole for the molestation of a 15-year-old Boise boy.

George Herbert Lewis, 52, was silent as Judge Deborah Bail handed down the prison term on January 29.

Lewis, who has maintained his innocence, would not comment on the decision.

The sentence was more harsh than many given for first-degree murder in a state which does not have a minimum mandatory sentence for child molestation.

Just the opposite.

Child molestation sometimes is treated lightly with one in five convicted molesters receiving a suspended sentence or having judgment withheld, according to a report released by the state Attorney General.

Because of Lewis' HIV state, the local Ada County prosecutor's office initially filed charges against Lewis for deliberately exposing an unsuspecting person to the HIV virus, a crime in Idaho.

Lewis was the first person charged under the law.

With a sentence of life imprisonment on the molestation case, however, prosecutors said there was no need to push the HIV + charge further.

Many people feel that Lewis' sentence reflected his HIV + status, his sexual orientation and a prior prison term in Tennessee more than the molestation charge.

The case drew widespread publicity in Idaho and mixed reaction from the Boise gay and lesbian community.

Gay community activists were incensed at the release of Lewis' HIV status prior to the trial or verdict.

The state of Idaho does not have anonymous HIV testing nor does it guarantee the confidentiality of test results.

The gay community — which has only recently organized gay spokespeople for the media but is energetically planning the state's first pride parade for June, 1990 — roundly denounced Idaho authorities for allowing Lewis' HIV status to be made public.

Local activists claimed that without a guarantee of confidentiality, Idaho residents would not be tested for the virus thought to cause AIDS. They argued that this fear would increase the spread of the disease and endanger the lives of people with the virus by delaying treatment.

But the gay and lesbian community also was quick to distance itself from Lewis — who claimed that he was only helping a confused teenager come to terms with his sexual identity and that he was being harassed for his sexual orientation.

Local gay activists immediately alerted the media that pedophilia and homosexuality do not go hand-in-hand.

Estimates place 95 percent of all child molestation squarely on the shoulders of the heterosexual population.

But Lewis' homosexuality did make the trial a more sensational one.

Cases of sodomy are rarely prosecuted in Idaho but "infamous crimes against nature" are illegal and carry a minimum sentence of five years.

In the relatively quiet town of Boise, the combination AIDS-homosexual-child molestation made Lewis' case the top story in headlines and television newscasts whenever he appeared in court.

It is not known if Lewis will appeal. ■

HIV Resources

by Sonya Cox
OF MGW STAFF

- 1) HIV Positive Support Group, first and third Wednesday, 8 pm, CARES Clinic, 443-3299.
- 2) Positive Social Support Newsletter, \$7, ARC/AIDS, \$12 others, bimonthly, call PSSN at 442-0185 or 447-5925.
- 3) Emotional and practical support, education on safe sex (Buddy Connection workshops), getting and staying well for those who are HIV-free or HIV-positive, call Sacramento AIDS Foundation, M-F, 9-5, 448-2437.
- 4) AIDS Response Programs (STOP AIDS, Being Alive, other support and education get-togethers), call Lambda Community Center, 442-0185.
- 5) Support for Partners, Family, Friends, Significant Others, Mondays 6-8, Sharon Hartley and Charla Wistos, 454-1655.
- 6) Anonymous testing for HIV, Capitol Health Center, Wednesday and

- Thursday, 8-5, call for appointment, 440-7720.
- 7) Confidential testing and Drug Treatment, Aquarian Effort, call for appointment, 446-6467.
 - 8) Bereavement Support Group for family of those who have died of AIDS, Thursday, 7 p.m., Lutheran Church of our Redeemer, call 483-5691.
 - 9) MCC People Together, Tuesdays, 7:30-8:30, Capitol Towers, 1500 7th St. #110, call 454-4762.
 - 10) HIV Positives Latino Support Group, every other Monday, 6 p.m., call AIDS Foundation at 448-2437.
 - 11) AIDS Foundation Video Tape Library: Over 75 tapes available on various aspects of health care, infections, etc. Call Connie Garver at 448-2437 to arrange for overnight checkout (\$50 deposit required), or to arrange time to drop by Foundation for free viewing.
 - 12) HIV Negatives, partner support group, every 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30-9 p.m., Lambda Community Center (2nd floor), 442-0185.

Travel Rules May Cause AIDS Conference Boycott

by Bonnie Duritsky
OF MGW STAFF

Until last May, immigration law prohibited HIV carriers from entering the country. HIV positive visitors are now allowed to enter if they obtain a waiver, disclosing that they have the virus. This point of contention is the reason that up to 100 European AIDS scientists, including a Frenchman widely credited with discovering the AIDS virus, might not attend an international AIDS conference.

The French researcher, Dr. Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute in Paris, has very strong reservations in showing up for the Sixth International Conference on AIDS. Dr. Paul Volberding, co-chair of the June 20-24 conference, said that at an emergency meeting of the International AIDS Society, there was

a growing concern of a boycott because of U.S. immigration policy.

"Fear that researchers with important information to share won't attend, slowing the worldwide cooperation to fight the virus, is very real," said Dana Van Gorder, a spokesman for the event. "We're very concerned that it will slow down by at least a year the strengthening of AIDS programs in parts of the world where they may be most needed."

"We don't require this form of disclosure for our own citizens. And for us to impose a more discriminatory standard on foreigners doesn't make any sense," said Volberding, director of the AIDS program at the San Francisco General Hospital. He also stated that the conference will not be cancelled because of the boycott and that many planners like himself are contesting the travel restriction. ■

Open Road Concert to Benefit Hand to Hand

Open Road, Sacramento's gay Country Western duo, has announced a major concert to benefit Hand to Hand, a volunteer arm of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

October 6 is the date selected for the concert, from which all profits will be given to Hand to Hand Project.

The duo will be performing at the Sierra 2 Theater, on 24th Street and 3rd Avenue. Tickets will be available in the fall through Hand to Hand and the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

In addition to the Hand to Hand concert, *Open Road* will be performing a series of "Home Concerts" in April and May to benefit various teams of Team Sacramento (SAGA) as they raise funds to send their athletes to the gay games in Vancouver this summer. Information on those concerts can be had by calling the individual SAGA team coordinators. ■

AIDS Activists Arrested at Centers for Disease Control

Atlanta — Forty-nine AIDS activists were arrested at the headquarters of the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, culminating a mass demonstration calling on the federal agency to widen its definition of AIDS and AIDS-Related Complex. Most of the arrested were charged with criminal trespass or interfering with government property and were released on \$240 bond. According to police, CDC officials are seeking to press charges against the demonstrators. ■

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Gay Media Priest Fired

At the request of the board of Oasis, a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark with the lesbian and gay community, the Rev. J. Robert Williams has resigned as its executive director. He has also been suspended from performing all priestly functions by his bishop. Williams was ordained last December, by the Bishop of Newark, the Rt. Rev. John S. Spong in a highly publicized service. The intense media attention was based on the mistaken notion that Fr. Williams' ordination was the first of an openly non-celibate gay man in the Episcopal Church. It was the first such ordination in the Diocese of Newark.

Williams addressed a conference in Detroit sponsored by Integrity/Detroit and a local parish. The conference honored Integrity's patron, St. Aelred of Riveaulx, and focused on the blessing of lesbian and gay relationships. During his remarks, Williams expressed the view that celibacy was only rarely a positive option, and that virtually all persons' lives would be improved by sexual relationships. He reportedly expressed willingness to bless avowedly non-monogamous relationships.

The widespread reporting of these remarks in the press led Bishop Spong to admonish Williams, calling them "dumb." Williams refused to retract his remarks.

The board of Oasis, which is composed of gay men, lesbians, and heterosexuals, both clergy and lay, met during the annual Newark Diocesan Convention. Williams was present for several hours. Spong also met with the board briefly. The board unanimously decided to ask for Williams' resignation when it became clear that their differences were "unreconcilable." He resigned the next day.

Bishop Spong wrote an open letter to the other bishops of the Episcopal Church, announcing that he had asked Williams "not to function as a priest nor to speak publicly" while Diocesan committees examine whether he misrepresented his views on celibacy and monogamy during the screening process for ordination. It is not known how long this will take. Williams said, "I'm not making a decision to leave the [Episcopal] Church unless they force me to leave." But he added, "Before I got ordained, I was thinking of starting my own church, and that may be something I'll have to do after all, in order to tell the truth."

In the meantime, various bishops have been calling for a church trial for Bishop Spong. Williams has accused Spong of "looking for someone to sacrifice to take some of the heat off of him." A group of anti-gay bishops met with the Primate of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Edmond Browning. In a release at the end of the meeting, Bishop Browning expressed his "deep regret and sorrow" over what he called "the intemperate and tasteless comments of Robert Williams." However, he also said that "the issues for us as a church are deeper" than the ordination of Robert Williams or "his demeanor, regardless of how very sad that has been." Among the deeper issues he cited were the church's pastoral response to homosexuals and the appropriateness of ordaining them.

An official church release speculated that the meeting took some wind out of the movement

to have a church trial and possibly remove Spong and the bishops will probably settle for censuring him at their next meeting in September.

The board of Integrity, Inc., the nationwide lesbian and gay ministry of the Episcopal Church, issued a unanimous resolution stating its agony over the division among Williams, a long-time Integrity member and founder of Integrity/Dallas; Spong, one of Integrity's principal supporters in the House of Bishops; and the board of Oasis, which includes several Integrity members, most notably Integrity's founder, Dr. Louie Crew. The Integrity board said it hoped the incident would result

in more, not less dialogue in the church on issues of human sexuality. It noted that unlike the controversy surrounding the ordination of the first woman bishop last year when the women's community was kept apprised of all developments in discussions between church headquarters and the opposition, in this case the counsel of the lesbian and gay community has not been sought. The board also affirmed "as Integrity policy that the church should uphold committed relationships between lesbians and between gay men as it upholds committed relationships between heterosexual men and women."

Jewish World Congress "Chooses to Make a Difference"

by Peter Wilson
OF MGW STAFF

The 11th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews, attended by 300 participants coming from four continents, was recently held in Chicago under the theme "Choosing to Make a Difference." The gathering, largest yet held in the United States, was rich in events, including various workshops, performances, speeches, special presentations, religious services and political discussions.

Openly gay Jewish State Senator Alan Spear of Minnesota spoke on the importance of making differences in "our world through personal choices in how we live our lives."

Workshops, which followed over the two days of the Conference, emphasized to "choose to make a difference in ourselves and our health," in the relationships, families, entire Jewish world through traditional Jewish values. Among the most well-attended workshops were those on rituals and ceremonies of lesbian and gay Jewish life and on gay and lesbian life in Israel.

Religious services were led during the conference by local Chicago area rabbis including Rabbi Yoel Kahan (San Francisco). The performances of the Chicago Windy City Gay Chorus and a concert by Lynn Lavner were also part of the program.

The Board of the WCG & LJO voted to seek consultative status as a nongovernmental organization with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. "Should such status be granted, the World Congress would be the first gay and lesbian organization to have a consultative relationship with a major United Nations human rights body," said the WCG & LJO newsletter. The Board of World Congress following the U.N. application process, unanimously voted to join the International Lesbian and Gay Association.

The political consciousness of gay and lesbian Jewish community has grown in recent years. "The year 5749 will be remembered within the gay and lesbian Jewish community as an historic year." "For the first time, members of the Israeli Knesset addressed meetings of gay and lesbian Jews, both in Israel and in the United States."

Conferences for Gay Jews in Europe, Canada and U.S.A.

by Bonnie Duritsky
OF MGW STAFF

The World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations has scheduled four regional conferences in 1990, in Europe, Canada and the United States.

From April 27 to May 1, the European Regional Conference will meet in Amsterdam. For information write: Sjalhomo, Postbus 2536, 1000CM Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

The Midwestern Regional Conference will be held in Toronto June 29 to July 1. Information available from Chutzpah, P.O. Box 6103, Station A, Toronto, ON, M5W 1P5, Canada.

Seattle will host the Western Regional Conference August 10 through 12, following the Gay Games in Vancouver. For information, contact Tikvah Chadashah, P.O. Box 2731, Seattle, WA 98111.

Am Tikva, P.O. Box 11, Cambridge, MA 02238, is the address for the Northeastern Regional Conference, held August 17-19.

Largest Gathering of Lesbian/Gay Lutherans Expected at Assembly

The Board of Directors of Lutherans Concerned/North America (LC/NA) is planning to host the largest group of gay and lesbian Lutherans ever assembled at the organization's upcoming biennial convention. Assembly '90 marks LC/NA's 16th year of working for lesbian and gay understanding within the church and will be the group's seventh such gathering.

The international assembly will be held on the campus of University of Illinois at Chicago July 19-22. The four-day event will provide a basis for networking among LC/NA members who are continually working to bring about reconciliation between the Lutheran Church and the gay/lesbian community. Assembly '90 is intended to provide an atmosphere where people can experience a familiar yet fresh approach to spirituality and community.

Assembly '90's theme, "I am in Your Midst," is designed to be interpreted in a variety of ways. It is a call to the church bodies of the world, from the great numbers of dedicated people forgotten by organized religion due to their sexual orientation.

"I am in Your Midst" will be the conceptual basis for all of the weekend's activities, including main large group sessions and small group workshops, as well as worship services and social events.

Registration fees are divided into member/non-member categories. Reduced "Early-bird" registration fee (Member: \$150; Non-member: \$180) is available for those who register before May 1. After that date regular registration fees will apply (Member: \$165; Non-member: \$200). Housing costs are \$15/person/night for double rooms, and \$30/person/night for single rooms.

Assembly '90 "I am in Your Midst" will have "something for everyone." Workshops, inclusive language worship services, women's caucus, Parents/Friends support time, and a men's consciousness group are all planned as activity alternatives. Interested parties are encouraged to register soon to guarantee a space at Assembly '90.

For further information or to receive a registration form, write to Assembly '90 Mailbox, P.O. Box 10197, Fort Dearborn Station, Chicago, IL 60610.

Conference for Catholic Lesbians Held in Colorado

The Conference for Catholic Lesbians (CCL), founded in 1983 as the first national gay religious organization, will be holding its fifth annual conference on Memorial Day weekend at the Aspen Lodge in Estes Park, Colorado. Activities will begin Friday evening, May 25, and will end Monday afternoon, May 28. The theme this year is "Power and Empowerment" and the keynote speaker will be Mary E. Hunt, noted theologian and co-director of Water (Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual).

Featured at Conference '90 will be workshops, liturgies and entertainment. Recreational facilities will also be available. Workshop offerings will include programs on feminist theology, homophobia, ecology, spirituality and social justice.

For information, contact Erna O'Shea, conference coordinator, CCL, P.O. Box 436, Planetarium Station, New York, N.Y. 10024 or call (212) 562-8922.

Baptists Retreat Is Set for June

The 1990 National Retreat of American Baptists Concerned, the national organization of gay and lesbian Baptists, is set for June 25-27 in the Sonoma Valley, north of San Francisco. The theme of the retreat is "Finding Our Voice" as gays and lesbians and as Christians. The Retreat will be lead by Rev. Jane Spahr, the nationally known resource person on issues related to the gay and lesbian community.

The retreat is timed to begin the day following San Francisco's 1990 Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade. Members of AB-Concerned/SF Bay Area will extend hospitality housing to retreat registrants who will be traveling to the Bay Area early to participate in Freedom Day Weekend.

For information: (415) 256-8864, ABConcerned, 686 Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117.

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New Program Targets Young Activists

A new education and training program for young lesbian and gay activists has been launched by the California-based Critical Literacy Institute in the first national effort to locate and encourage the next generation of gay and lesbian leaders. The New Pacific Academy for Lesbian and Gay Community Service and Activism will open in June, with a one-month intensive training program at the University of California campus in Berkeley, California. The program, dubbed "Basic Training," will provide young lesbians and gay men with the knowledge, practical skills and peer support necessary for effective leadership.

New Pacific expects to cover all costs for participants except travel expenses. The "Basic Training" will be offered to 200 young people, 18 to 30 years old, with demonstrated commitment to social service or political activism benefiting the gay and lesbian community. The student body will be half men and half women, with 50 percent of the students drawn from communities of color. Students will be offered a wide range of lectures and workshops presented by some of the gay and lesbian community's most accomplished activists, academics and artists.

New Pacific is governed by a Board of Directors and an Advisory Board composed of activists from throughout the United States. The 1990 "Basic Training" will run from June 14 through July 15, with students having full access to the resources of the Bay Area gay/lesbian community including the 1990 Lesbian and Gay Freedom Celebration, The International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival and the Sixth International AIDS Conference.

Contact: New Pacific Academy, 2338 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 252-1690. ■

Gay Youth Pamphlets Available from Campaign to End Homophobia

A unique, affirmative, and much-needed series of pamphlets designed for young people who are questioning their sexual orientation is now available. The two pamphlets, entitled, "I Think I Might Be A Lesbian/I Think I Might Be Gay ... Now What Do I Do?" were produced by the Campaign to End Homophobia, a national network of people who work to end homophobia through information sharing and education.

The pamphlets were designed by two educators based on their conversations with young lesbians and gay men. The peer education aspect is certainly one of the leading factors in the success of the project.

The young people who helped design the series insisted that as much material as possible be available to their information-starved peers. There are frank discussions on safer sex, self-esteem, and making contacts with other lesbian and gay youth.

The Campaign to End Homophobia produced these materials to fill the gap in resources available to adolescents, knowing that most sex education curricula are written with the assumption that all teens are heterosexual. To youth questioning their sexuality, these pamphlets are an affirming and supportive breath of fresh air. To heterosexual youth, they are an eye-opening learning experience. To parents and adults working with lesbian and gay youth, they are an effective educational tool.

For more information on the Campaign to End Homophobia, or for copies of the pamphlets, contact Cooper Thompson at (617) 868-8280. ■

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